Message Text

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FOR EMBASSY CAPETOWN

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR PO

SUBJECT: PREPARATORY MEETING FOR APARTHEID CONFERENCE

SUMMARY: THE PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE ON APARTHEID, RACISM, AND COLONIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA SET JUNE 16-19 FOR ITS CONFERENCE. AT THE MEETING, UN ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL MCBRIDE SAID "WESTERN POWERS" AND KISSINGER'S POLICY CONTRIBUTED TO THE PERSISTENCE OF APARTHEID AND THAT NATO "HAWKS" WERE ATTEMPTING TO FORM A SOUTHERN BLOC. END SUMMARY.

1. DATES SET: THE PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON APARTHEID, RACISM, AND COLONIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WAS HELD JAN 22-23 IN LISBON UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL AND THE PORTUGUESE COUNCIL FOR PEACE AND COOPERATION (CPPC). THE CONFERENCE WAS SET FOR JUNE 16-19 IN LISBON.

2. PARTICIPATION: THE PREPARATORY MEETING WAS LED BY FATHER SOARES MARTINS OF THE CPPC AND INCLUDED SOCIALIST DEPUTY CARLOS CANDEL AND OTHER MEMBERS OF

THE CPPC. ALSO ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WERE HUSSEIN ABDULRAZZAK, ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SOLIDARITY WITH THE AFRO-ASIAN PEOPLE; REGINALD SEPTEMBER OF THE ANC OF SOUTH AFRICA; PHIBION MAKONI OF THE ANC OF ZIMBABWE; AND PETER KATJAVIVI OF SWAPO.

- 4. MCBRIDE REMARKS: HIGHLIGHT OF MEETING WAS THE CLOSING SPEECH BY UN ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL SEAN MCBRIDE WHO SAID:
- -- THE ILLEGAL GOVERNMENTS OF RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA HAVE CONTINUED TO DEFY UN DECISIONS AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION
- -- THOSE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT BE IN SUCH A POSITION "IF CERTAIN WESTERN POWERS DID NOT TOLERATE THEIR ILLEGAL ACTIONS FOR ECONOMIC, POLITCAL, AND STRATEGIC REASONS."
- -- HE HOPED THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION WOULD FOLLOW A DIFFERENT FOREIGN POLICY THAN KISSINGER. THIS WOULD BE A FACTOR FAVORABLE TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST APARTHEID.
- -- THE STRATEGY OF THE "HAWKS" IN NATO WAS TO FORM A "SOUTHERN BLOC" COMPOSED OF BRAZIL, SOUTH AFRICA, ARGENTINA, AND TWO OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES.
- 5. COMMENT: THE FULL EXTENT OF SOVIET TIES TO THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL IS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN IN PORTUGAL.
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